

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8

1595 Wynkoop Street
DENVER, CO 80202-1129
Phone 800-227-8917
http://www.epa.gov/region08

FEB 1 8 2015

Ref: 8ENF-UFO

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL 7009-3410-0000-2599-4777</u> RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. J D Horrocks Newfield Exploration Company Route 3, Box 3630 Myton, UT 84052

Re:

Underground Injection Control (UIC)

Notice of Violation:

Loss of Mechanical Integrity Lone Tree 16-21-9-17 Well

EPA Permit ID# UT22197-10617

API # 43-013-33282 Duchesne County, Utah

Dear Mr. Horrocks:

On February 4, 2015, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) learned that the Newfield Exploration Company injection well referenced above lost mechanical integrity on February 4, 2015. Pursuant to the above-referenced UIC Permit and Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations Section 144.51(q)(1) (40 C.F.R. § 144.51(q)(1)), you must establish and maintain mechanical integrity. A loss of mechanical integrity is a violation of this requirement.

Pursuant to the above-referenced UIC Permit and the regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 144.51(q)(2), you must immediately cease injection into this well. Before injection may resume, you must demonstrate that the well has mechanical integrity by passing a mechanical integrity test (MIT). You must also receive written authorization from the EPA.

You have notified the EPA describing the action you intend to take regarding the well. It is expected that you will return this well to compliance within ninety (90) days of the loss of mechanical integrity.

If you choose to plug and abandon this well, the approved plugging and abandonment plan that is incorporated into the permit must be followed. Any deviation from that plan must be submitted to the EPA for approval prior to the plugging operation.

Failure to comply with the UIC regulations found at 40 C.F.R. Parts 144 through 148 constitutes one or more violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300h. Such non-compliance may subject you to formal enforcement by the EPA, as codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 22.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, you may contact Gary Wang at (303) 312-6469. Please direct all correspondence to the attention of Gary Wang at Mail Code 8ENF-UFO.

Sincerely,

Arturo Palomares, Director

Water Technical Enforcement Program Office of Enforcement, Compliance

and Environmental Justice

cc: Gordon Howell, Chairman, Uintah & Ouray Business Committee Ronald Wopsock, Vice-Chairman, Uintah & Ouray Business Committee Reannin Tapoof, Executive Assistant, Uintah & Ouray Business Committee Stewart Pike, Councilman, Uintah & Ouray Business Committee Tony Small, Councilman, Uintah & Ouray Business Committee Bruce Ignacio, Councilman, Uintah & Ouray Business Committee Phillip Chimburas, Councilman, Uintah & Ouray Business Committee Manuel Myore, Director of Energy, Minerals and Air Programs Brad Hill, Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining